

REMARKS

In paragraph 2 of the Office Action dated February 01, 2007, claims 24-39, 42, 43 and 45 were withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b). Accordingly, applicant cancels the withdrawn claims.

In paragraph 5 of the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 2, 10, 14 and 24 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant amends base claims 1, 12, 13, 23 and 44 to include the limitation of claim 2 that the immobilization agent comprises an accelerator agent. Claims 2, 14 and 25 are canceled since the limitations of these claims have been incorporated into their respective base claims. In addition, claims 4 and 16 are canceled as being duplicative. Claims 5 and 17 are amended to make them consistent with their respective amended base claims.

Applicant will not present any remarks regarding the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) set forth in paragraph 4 of the office action. This rejection has been rendered moot in view of the above-discussed amendments to the claims, which are intended to place this application in a condition for allowance.

Applicant respectfully request that this application be reexamined and that the claims, as now amended, be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,

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